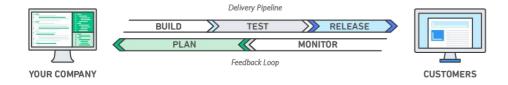


AWS DevOps Blog

Complete CI/CD with AWS CodeCommit, AWS CodeBuild, AWS CodeDeploy, and AWS CodePipeline

by Nitin Verma | on 30 SEP 2020 | in AWS CodeBuild, AWS CodeCommit, AWS CodeDeploy, AWS CodePipeline | Permalink | AWS CodeDeploy, AWS CodePipeline | Permalink | AWS CodeDeploy, AWS CodePipeline | Permalink | AWS CodeDeploy, AWS CodeDeplo

Many organizations have been shifting to DevOps practices, which is the combination of cultural philosophies, practices, and tools that increases your organization's ability to deliver applications and services at high velocity; for example, evolving and improving products at a faster pace than organizations using traditional software development and infrastructure management processes.



An integral part of DevOps is adopting the culture of continuous integration and continuous delivery/deployment (CI/CD), where a commit or change to code passes through various automated stage gates, all the way from building and testing to deploying applications, from development to production environments

This post uses the AWS suite of CI/CD services to compile, build, and install a version-controlled Java application onto a set of Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud (Amazon EC2) Linux instances via a fully automated and secure pipeline. The goal is to promote a code commit or change to pass through various automated stage gates all the way from development to production environments, across AWS accounts.

AWS services

This solution uses the following AWS services:

- AWS CodeCommit A fully-managed source control service that hosts secure Git-based repositories.
 CodeCommit makes it easy for teams to collaborate on code in a secure and highly scalable ecosystem. This solution uses CodeCommit to create a repository to store the application and deployment codes.
- AWS CodeBuild A fully managed continuous integration service that compiles source code, runs tests, and produces software packages that are ready to deploy, on a dynamically created build server. This solution uses CodeBuild to build and test the code, which we deploy later.
- AWS CodeDeploy A fully managed deployment service that automates software deployments to a
 variety of compute services such as Amazon EC2, AWS Fargate, AWS Lambda, and your on-premises
 servers. This solution uses CodeDeploy to deploy the code or application onto a set of EC2 instances
 running CodeDeploy agents.
- AWS CodePipeline A fully managed continuous delivery service that helps you automate your release
 pipelines for fast and reliable application and infrastructure updates. This solution uses CodePipeline
 to create an end-to-end pipeline that fetches the application code from CodeCommit, builds and tests
 using CodeBuild, and finally deploys using CodeDeploy.
- AWS CloudWatch Events An AWS CloudWatch Events rule is created to trigger the CodePipeline on a Git commit to the CodeCommit repository.
- Amazon Simple Storage Service (Amazon S3) An object storage service that offers industry-leading scalability, data availability, security, and performance. This solution uses an S3 bucket to store the

build and deployment artifacts created during the pipeline run.

AWS Key Management Service (AWS KMS) – AWS KMS makes it easy for you to create and manage
cryptographic keys and control their use across a wide range of AWS services and in your applications.
This solution uses AWS KMS to make sure that the build and deployment artifacts stored on the S3
bucket are encrypted at rest.

Overview of solution

This solution uses two separate AWS accounts: a **dev account (11111111111)** and a **prod account (22222222222)** in Region **us-east-1**.

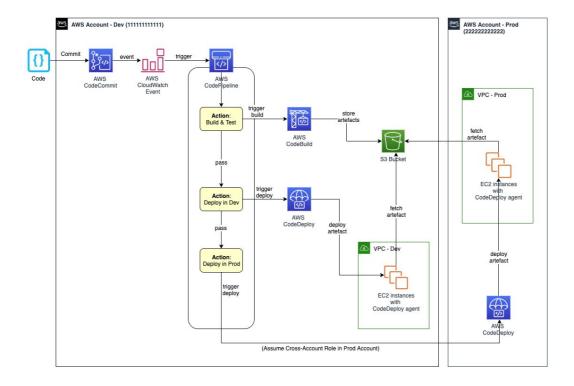
We use the dev account to deploy and set up the CI/CD pipeline, along with the source code repo. It also builds and tests the code locally and performs a test deploy.

The prod account is any other account where the application is required to be deployed from the pipeline in the dev account.

In summary, the solution has the following workflow:

- A change or commit to the code in the CodeCommit application repository triggers CodePipeline with the help of a CloudWatch event.
- The pipeline downloads the code from the CodeCommit repository, initiates the Build and Test action using CodeBuild, and securely saves the built artifact on the S3 bucket.
- If the preceding step is successful, the pipeline triggers the Deploy in Dev action using CodeDeploy and deploys the app in dev account.
- If successful, the pipeline triggers the Deploy in Prod action using CodeDeploy and deploys the app in the prod account.

The following diagram illustrates the workflow:



Failsafe deployments

This example of CodeDeploy uses the IN_PLACE type of deployment. However, to minimize the downtime, CodeDeploy inherently supports multiple deployment strategies. This example makes use of following features: rolling deployments and automatic rollback.

CodeDeploy provides the following three predefined deployment configurations, to minimize the impact during application upgrades:

- CodeDeployDefault.OneAtATime Deploys the application revision to only one instance at a time
- CodeDeployDefault.HalfAtATime Deploys to up to half of the instances at a time (with fractions rounded down)
- CodeDeployDefault.AllAtOnce Attempts to deploy an application revision to as many instances as possible at once

For OneAtATime and HalfAtATime, CodeDeploy monitors and evaluates instance health during the deployment and only proceeds to the next instance or next half if the previous deployment is healthy. For more information, see Working with deployment configurations in CodeDeploy.

You can also configure a deployment group or deployment to automatically roll back when a deployment fails or when a monitoring threshold you specify is met. In this case, the last known good version of an application revision is automatically redeployed after a failure with the new application version.

How CodePipeline in the dev account deploys apps in the prod account

In this post, the deployment pipeline using CodePipeline is set up in the dev account, but it has permissions to deploy the application in the prod account. We create a special cross-account role in the prod account, which has the following:

- Permission to use fetch artifacts (app) rom Amazon S3 and deploy it locally in the account using CodeDeploy
- Trust with the dev account where the pipeline runs

CodePipeline in the dev account assumes this cross-account role in the prod account to deploy the app.

Do I need multiple accounts?

If you answer "yes" to any of the following questions you should consider creating more AWS accounts:

- Does your business require administrative isolation between workloads? Administrative isolation by
 account is the most straightforward way to grant independent administrative groups different levels
 of administrative control over AWS resources based on workload, development lifecycle, business unit
 (BU), or data sensitivity.
- Does your business require limited visibility and discoverability of workloads? Accounts provide a natural boundary for visibility and discoverability. Workloads cannot be accessed or viewed unless an administrator of the account enables access to users managed in another account.
- Does your business require isolation to minimize blast radius? Separate accounts help define
 boundaries and provide natural blast-radius isolation to limit the impact of a critical event such as a
 security breach, an unavailable AWS Region or Availability Zone, account suspensions, and so on.
- Does your business require a particular workload to operate within AWS service limits without
 impacting the limits of another workload? You can use AWS account service limits to impose
 restrictions on a business unit, development team, or project. For example, if you create an AWS
 account for a project group, you can limit the number of Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud (Amazon
 EC2) or high performance computing (HPC) instances that can be launched by the account.
- Does your business require strong isolation of recovery or auditing data? If regulatory requirements
 require you to control access and visibility to auditing data, you can isolate the data in an account
 separate from the one where you run your workloads (for example, by writing AWS CloudTrail logs to
 a different account).

Prerequisites

For this walkthrough, you should complete the following prerequisites:

- 1. Have access to at least two AWS accounts. For this post, the dev and prod accounts are in us-east-1. You can search and replace the Region and account IDs in all the steps and sample AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM) policies in this post.
- 2. Ensure you have EC2 Linux instances with the CodeDeploy agent installed in all the accounts or VPCs where the sample Java application is to be installed (dev and prod accounts).
 - To manually create EC2 instances with CodeDeploy agent, refer Create an Amazon EC2 instance for CodeDeploy (AWS CLI or Amazon EC2 console). Keep in mind the following:
 - CodeDeploy uses EC2 instance tags to identify instances to use to deploy the application, so it's important to set tags appropriately. For this post, we use the tag name Application

- with the value MyWebApp to identify instances where the sample app is installed.
- Make sure to use an EC2 instance profile (AWS Service Role for EC2 instance) with permissions to read the S3 bucket containing artifacts built by CodeBuild. Refer to the IAM role cicd_ec2_instance_profile in the table Roles-1 below for the set of permissions required. You must update this role later with the actual KMS key and S3 bucket name created as part of the deployment process.
- To create EC2 Linux instances via AWS Cloudformation, download and launch the AWS CloudFormation template from the GitHub repo: cicd-ec2-instance-with-codedeploy.json
 - This deploys an EC2 instance with AWS CodeDeploy agent.
 - Inputs required:
 - AMI: Enter name of the Linux AMI in your region. (This template has been tested with latest Amazon Linux 2 AMI)
 - Ec2SshKeyPairName: Name of an existing SSH KeyPair
 - Ec2lamInstanceProfile: Name of an existing EC2 instance profile. Note: Use the permissions in the template cicd_ec2_instance_profile_policy.json to create the policy for this EC2 Instance Profile role. You must update this role later with the actual KMS key and S3 bucket name created as part of the deployment process.
 - Update the EC2 instance Tags per your need.
- 3. Ensure required IAM permissions. Have an IAM user with an IAM Group or Role that has the following access levels or permissions:

AWS Service / Components	Access Level	Accounts	Comments	
AWS CodeCommit	Full (admin)	Dev	Use AWS managed policy AWSCodeCommitFullAccess.	
AWS CodePipeline	Full (admin)	Dev	Use AWS managed policy AWSCodePipelineFullAccess.	
AWS CodeBuild	Full (admin)	Dev	Use AWS managed policy AWSCodeBuildAdminAccess.	
AWS CodeDeploy	Full (admin)	All	Use AWS managed policy AWSCodeDeployFullAccess.	
Create S3 bucket and bucket policies	Full (admin)	Dev	IAM policies can be restricted to specific bucket.	
Create KMS key and policies	Full (admin)	Dev	IAM policies can be restricted to specific KMS key.	
AWS CloudFormation	Full (admin)	Dev	Use AWS managed policy AWSCloudFormationFullAccess.	
Create and pass IAM roles	Full (admin)	All	Ability to create IAM roles and policies can be restricted to specific IAM roles or actions. Also, an admit team with IAM privileges could create all the required roles. Refer to the IAM table <i>Roles-1</i> below.	
AWS Management Console and AWS CLI	As per IAM User permissions	All	To access suite of Code services.	

- 4. Create Git credentials for CodeCommit in the pipeline account (dev account). AWS allows you to either use Git credentials or associate SSH public keys with your IAM user. For this post, use Git credentials associated with your IAM user (created in the previous step). For instructions on creating a Git user, see Create Git credentials for HTTPS connections to CodeCommit. Download and save the Git credentials to use later for deploying the application.
- 5. Create all AWS IAM roles as per the following tables (Roles-1). Make sure to update the following references in all the given IAM roles and policies:
 - o Replace the sample dev account (11111111111) and prod account (22222222222) with

actual account IDs

- o Replace the KMS key ID *key/82215457-e360-47fc-87dc-a04681c91ce1* with your KMS key ID.

Table: Roles-1

Service	IAM Role Type	Account	IAM Role Name (used for this post)	IAM Role Policy (required for this post)	IAM Role Permissions
AWS CodePipeline		Dev (111111111111)	cicd_codepipeline_service_role Select Another AWS Account and use this account as the account ID to create the role. Later update the trust as follows: "Principal": {"Service": "codepipeline.amazonaws.com"},	Use the permissions in the template cicd_codepipeline_service_policy.json to create the policy for this role.	This CodePipeline service role has appropriate permissions to the following services in a local account: • Manage CodeCommit repos • Initiate build via CodeBuild • Create deployments via CodeDeploy • Assume cross-account CodeDeploy role in prod account to deploy the application
AWS CodePipeline	IAM role	Dev	cicd_codepipeline_trigger_cwe_role Select Another AWS Account and use this account as the account ID to create the role. Later update the trust as follows: "Principal": {"Service": "events.amazonaws.com"},	Use the permissions in the template cicd_codepipeline_trigger_cwe_policy.json to create the policy for this role.	CodePipeline uses this role to set a CloudWatch event to trigger the pipeline when there is a change or commit made to the code repository.
AWS CodePipeline	IAM role	Prod	cicd_codepipeline_cross_ac_role Choose Another AWS Account and use the dev account as the trusted account ID to create the role.	Use the permissions in the template cicd_codepipeline_cross_ac_policy.json to create the policy for this role.	This role is created in the prod account and has permissions to use CodeDeploy and fetch from Amazon S3. The role is assumed by CodePipeline from the dev account to deploy the app in the prod account. Make sure to set up trust with the dev account for this IAM role on the Trust relationships tab.

	Service role	Dev (111111111111)	cicd_codebuild_service_role Choose CodeBuild as the use case to create the role.	Use the permissions in the template cicd_codebuild_service_policy.json to create the policy for this role.	This CodeBuild service role has appropriate permissions to: • The S3 bucket to store artefacts • Stream logs to CloudWatch Logs • Pull code from CodeCommit • Get the SSM parameter for CodeBuild • Miscellaneous Amazon EC2 permissions
	Service role	(11111111111) and Prod	cicd_codedeploy_service_role Choose CodeDeploy as the use case to create the role.	Use the built-in AWS managed policy AWSCodeDeployRole for this role.	This CodeDeploy service role has appropriate permissions to: • Miscellaneous Amazon EC2 Auto Scaling • Miscellaneous Amazon EC2 • Publish Amazon SNS topic • AWS CloudWatch metrics • Elastic Load Balancing
EC2 Instance	EC2	(11111111111) and Prod	Choose EC2 as the use case to	Use the permissions in the template cicd_ec2_instance_profile_policy.json to create the policy for this role.	This is set as the EC2 instance profile for the EC2 instances where the app is deployed. It has appropriate permissions to fetch artefacts from Amazon S3 and decrypt contents using the KMS key. You must update this role later with the actual KMS key and S3 bucket name created as

		part of the
		deployment
		process.

Setting up the prod account

To set up the prod account, complete the following steps:

- 1. Download and launch the AWS CloudFormation template from the GitHub repo: cicd-codedeploy-prod.json
 - o This deploys the CodeDeploy app and deployment group.
 - Make sure that you already have a set of EC2 Linux instances with the CodeDeploy agent
 installed in all the accounts where the sample Java application is to be installed (dev and prod
 accounts). If not, refer back to the **Prerequisites** section.
- 2. Update the existing EC2 IAM instance profile (cicd_ec2_instance_profile):
 - Replace the S3 bucket name mywebapp-codepipeline-bucket-us-east-1-1111111111111 with your S3 bucket name (the one used for the CodePipelineArtifactS3Bucket variable when you launched the CloudFormation template in the dev account).
 - Replace the KMS key ARN arn:aws:kms:us-east-1:111111111111111111111111118ey/82215457-e360-47fc-87dc-a04681c91ce1 with your KMS key ARN (the one created as part of the CloudFormation template launch in the dev account).

Setting up the dev account

To set up your dev account, complete the following steps:

 Download and launch the CloudFormation template from the GitHub repo: cicd-aws-code-suitedev.json

The stack deploys the following services in the dev account:

- o CodeCommit repository
- o CodePipeline
- o CodeBuild environment
- CodeDeploy app and deployment group
- o CloudWatch event rule
- o KMS key (used to encrypt the S3 bucket)
- o S3 bucket and bucket policy
- 2. Use following values as inputs to the CloudFormation template. You should have created all the existing resources and roles beforehand as part of the prerequisites.

Key	Example Value	Comments
CodeCommitWebAppRepo	MyWebAppRepo	Name of the new CodeCommit
сочесопшистериров	ту меририсро	repository for your web app.
		Main branch name on your
CodeCommitMainBranchName	master	CodeCommit repository. Default
	illastei	is master (which is pushed to the
		prod environment).
CodeBuildProjectName	MyCBWebAppProject	Name of the new CodeBuild
	мусьмерарритојест	environment.
CodeBuildServiceRole		ARN of an existing IAM service
	arn:aws:iam::1111111111111:role/cicd_codebuild_service_role	role to be associated with
		CodeBuild to build web app
		code.
		Name of the new CodeDeploy
		app to be created for your web

CodeDeployApp	MyCDWebApp	app. We assume that the CodeDeploy app name is the same in all accounts where deployment needs to occur (in this case, the prod account).
CodeDeployGroupDev	MyCICD-Deployment-Group-Dev	Name of the new CodeDeploy deployment group to be created in the dev account.
CodeDeployGroupProd	MyCICD-Deployment-Group-Prod	Name of the existing CodeDeploy deployment group in prod account. Created as part of the prod account setup.
CodeDeployGroupTagKey	Application	Name of the tag key that CodeDeploy uses to identify the existing EC2 fleet for the deployment group to use.
CodeDeployGroupTagValue	MyWebApp	Value of the tag that CodeDeploy uses to identify the existing EC2 fleet for the deployment group to use.
CodeDeployConfigName	CodeDeployDefault.OneAtATime	Desired Code Deploy config name. Valid options are: CodeDeployDefault.OneAtATime CodeDeployDefault.HalfAtATime CodeDeployDefault.AllAtOnce For more information, see Deployment configurations on an EC2/on-premises compute platform.
CodeDeployServiceRole	arn:aws:iam::11111111111111:role/cicd_codedeploy_service_role	ARN of an existing IAM service role to be associated with CodeDeploy to deploy web app.
CodePipelineName	MyWebAppPipeline	Name of the new CodePipeline to be created for your web app.
CodePipelineArtifactS3Bucket	mywebapp-codepipeline-bucket-us-east-1-1111111111111	Name of the new S3 bucket to be created where artifacts for the pipeline are stored for this web app.
CodePipelineServiceRole	arn:aws:iam::11111111111111:role/cicd_codepipeline_service_role	ARN of an existing IAM service role to be associated with CodePipeline to deploy web app.
CodePipelineCWEventTriggerRole	arn:aws:iam::11111111111111:role/cicd_codepipeline_trigger_cwe_role	ARN of an existing IAM role used to trigger the pipeline you named earlier upon a code push to the CodeCommit repository.
CodeDeployRoleXAProd	arn:aws:iam::222222222222:role/cicd_codepipeline_cross_ac_role	ARN of an existing IAM role in the cross-account for CodePipeline to assume to deploy the app.

It should take 5–10 minutes for the CloudFormation stack to complete. When the stack is complete, you can see that CodePipeline has built the pipeline (*MyWebAppPipeline*) with the CodeCommit

repository and CodeBuild environment, along with actions for CodeDeploy in local (dev) and cross-account (prod). CodePipeline should be in a **failed** state because your CodeCommit repository is empty initially.

- 3. Update the existing Amazon EC2 IAM instance profile (cicd_ec2_instance_profile):
 - Replace the S3 bucket name mywebapp-codepipeline-bucket-us-east-1-1111111111111 with your S3 bucket name (the one used for the CodePipelineArtifactS3Bucket parameter when launching the CloudFormation template in the dev account).

Deploying the application

You're now ready to deploy the application via your desktop or PC.

1. Assuming you have the required HTTPS Git credentials for CodeCommit as part of the prerequisites, clone the CodeCommit repo that was created earlier as part of the dev account setup. Obtain the name of the CodeCommit repo to clone, from the CodeCommit console. Enter the Git user name and password when prompted. For example:

```
$ git clone https://git-codecommit.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/v1/repos/MyWebAppRepo my
Cloning into 'my-web-app-repo'...
Username for 'https://git-codecommit.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/v1/repos/MyWebAppRepo
Password for 'https://xxxx@git-codecommit.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/v1/repos/MyWebApp
```

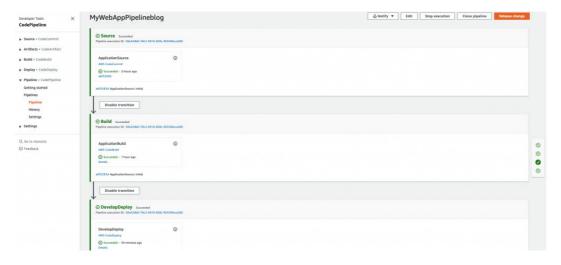
- 2. Download the MyWebAppRepo.zip file containing a sample Java application, CodeBuild configuration to build the app, and CodeDeploy config file to deploy the app.
- 3. Copy and unzip the file into the my-web-app-repo Git repository folder created earlier.
- 4. Assuming this is the sample app to be deployed, commit these changes to the Git repo. For example:

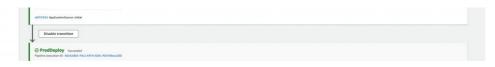
```
$ cd my-web-app-repo
$ git add -A
$ git commit -m "initial commit"
$ git push
```

For more information, see Tutorial: Create a simple pipeline (CodeCommit repository).

After you commit the code, the CodePipeline will be triggered and all the stages and your application should be **built, tested, and deployed** all the way to the production environment!

The following screenshot shows the entire pipeline and its latest run:





Troubleshooting

To troubleshoot any service-related issues, see the following:

- Troubleshooting CodePipeline
- Troubleshooting CodeDeploy
- Troubleshooting AWS CodeCommit
- Troubleshooting AWS CodeBuild

Cleaning up

To avoid incurring future charges or to remove any unwanted resources, delete the following:

- EC2 instance used to deploy the application
- CloudFormation template to remove all AWS resources created through this post
- IAM users or roles

Conclusion

Using this solution, you can easily set up and manage an entire CI/CD pipeline in AWS accounts using the native AWS suite of CI/CD services, where a commit or change to code passes through various automated stage gates all the way from building and testing to deploying applications, from development to production environments.

FAQs

In this section, we answer some frequently asked questions:

- 1. Can I expand this deployment to more than two accounts?
 - Yes. You can deploy a pipeline in a tooling account and use dev, non-prod, and prod accounts to deploy code on EC2 instances via CodeDeploy. Changes are required to the templates and policies accordingly.
- 2. Can I ensure the application isn't automatically deployed in the prod account via CodePipeline and needs manual approval?
 - Yes. Minor changes are required to the CodePipeline section of the CloudFormation template
 for the dev environment to add an Approval stage and action. Refer to the following Solution
 Variations section for more information.
- 3. Can I use a CodeDeploy group with an Auto Scaling group?
 - Yes. Minor changes required to the CodeDeploy group creation process. Refer to the following Solution Variations section for more information.
- 4. Can I use this pattern for EC2 Windows instances?
 - Not as is. You need to make a few changes to the CloudFormation template for the dev environment for a CodeBuild project. For more information about setting up a CodeBuild environment, see Microsoft Windows samples for CodeBuild.

Solution variations

In this section, we provide a few variations to our solution:

- To associate CodeDeploy to an Auto Scaling group instead of grouping EC2 instances using tags, see Integrating CodeDeploy with Amazon EC2 Auto Scaling.
- To deploy apps to on-premises instances via CodeDeploy, see Working with on-premises instances for CodeDeploy.
- To use GitHub to trigger CodePipeline (instead of CodeCommit), see Use webhooks to start a pipeline (GitHub source).

- To learn about various providers supported by CodePipeline, see Valid action types and providers in CodePipeline.
- To add manual approval before deploying an app to production, see Manage approval actions in CodePipeline.

Author bio



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Nitin is currently a Sr. Cloud Architect in the AWS Managed Services(AMS). He has many years of experience with DevOps-related tools and technologies. Speak to your AWS Managed Services representative to deploy this solution in AMS!

TAGS: Application, Automation, AWS, CI/CD, CICD, codebuild, CodeCommit, CodeDeploy, CodePipeline, Deployment, DevOps, Java, Pipeline



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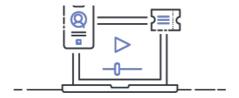
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